

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 NIAMEY 03692 221220Z

21-12

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-14 ISO-00 SCI-06 AID-20 IGA-02 PM-07

NSC-10 SPC-03 SS-20 RSC-01 EB-11 COME-00 TRSE-00

OMB-01 NSF-04 DRC-01 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 DODE-00

/154 W

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P R 220900Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6860

INFO AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY BAMAKO

AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA

AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION GENEVA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE NIAMEY 3692

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TPHY NG FR

SUBJECT: NIGER ASKS USG DONATE PLANES FOR 1974 CLOUD SEEDING  
PROGRAM

REF: A. NIAMEY 3488 (NOTAL) B. NIAMEY 2939 (NOTAL)

1. FOREIGN MINISTER SABO IN LETTER DATED DEC 17 REQUESTS  
USG DONATE TWO PIPER AZTEC AIRCRAFT EQUIPPED FOR HIGH  
ALTITUDE CLOUD SEEDING OPERATIONS FOR NIGER WEATHER  
MODIFICATION PROGRAM TO BEGIN NEXT MAY. LETTER IS  
FORMALIZATION OF REQUEST MENTIONED BY PRES DIORI TO CODEL  
DIGGS (REF A). FRENCH EMBASSY HAS BEEN ASKED SUPPLY GROUND  
SUPPORT EQUIPMENT FOR OPERATION INCLUDING RADAR AND RADIOS.  
FRENCH RESPONSE EXPECTED TO BE GENERALLY POSITIVE.

2. AS PREVIOUSLY REPORTED NIGER GOVERNMENT WAS SUFFICIENTLY  
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ENCOURAGED BY RESULTS OBTAINED FROM CLOUD SEEDING LAST

SEPTEMBER BY PRIVATE AMERICAN CONTRACTOR AND FRENCH GOVERNMENT AGENCY TO EMBARK ON EXPENDED PROGRAM FOR 1974 GROWING SEASON. CONTRACT HAS BEEN OFFERED TO AMERICAN WEATHER MODIFICATION SPECIALIST TO DIRECT PROGRAM WITH GON ASSUMING RESPONSIBILITY OF FURNISHING PLANES AND PILOTS. PRESIDENT DIORI HAS BEEN FOLLOWING PREPARATIONS FOR CLOUD SEEDING PROJECT WITH KEEN INTEREST AND HAS REFERRED TO IT SEVERAL TIMES RECENTLY IN PUBLIC STATEMENTS INCLUDING REPUBLIC DAY ADDRESS.

3. DEPARTMENT WILL RECALL DEEP DISAPPOINTMENT EXPRESSED BY PRES DIORI, FOREIGN MINISTER ET AL AT USG REFUSALS IN PAST TO NIGER REQUESTS FOR OPERATIONAL ASSISTANCE. DESPITE PREVIOUS REJECTIONS GON AGAIN TURNING TO USG. SIGNIFICANT DIFFERENCE THIS TIME IS THAT GON NOW ASKING US TO SUPPLY COMMODITY INPUT TO A NIGER GOVERNMENT PROGRAM RATHER THAN TO MOUNT A USG OPERATION. LEGAL AND POLITICAL OBJECTIONS RAISED TO JUSTIFY OUR PAST TURNDOWNS THEREFORE NO LONGER SEEM COGENT.

4. PROVISION OF THE AZTECS BY USG WOULD BE SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION TO PROGRAM AND WOULD BE GREATLY APPRECIATED BY NIGERIENS PARTICULARLY IN VIEW OF OUR PREVIOUS POSITION. IF, ON OTHER HAND, DECISION IS MADE TO REFUSE REQUEST, GIVEN PERSONAL AND EMOTIONAL COMMITMENT TO PROJECT BY PRESIDENT DIORI WE CAN EXPECT A RECRUDESCENCE OF CRITICISM EXPERIENCED SEVERAL MONTHS AGO.  
BUCHE

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** WEATHER MODIFICATION, CLOUD SEEDING  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 22 DEC 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** golinofr  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1973NIAMEY03692  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** n/a  
**From:** NIAMEY  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
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**Legacy Key:** link1973/newtext/t1973128/aaaaafxo.tel  
**Line Count:** 88  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE  
**Office:** ACTION AF  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
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**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** A. NIAMEY 3488 (NOTAL) B. NIAMEY 293, 9 (NOTAL)  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** golinofr  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 10 JAN 2002  
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Declassified/Released  
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EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

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**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** NIGER ASKS USG DONATE PLANES FOR 1974 CLOUD SEEDING PROGRAM  
**TAGS:** TPHY, NG, FR, US  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005